

agreements—for example, Russian negotiations on a START III treaty will be strongly influenced by the growing Chinese capability on Russia's eastern border, and India continues to develop more advanced nuclear weapons partly in response to China's program.

I will say very little about the allegations against a specific scientist at Los Alamos. However, given what we know about China's intelligence program, it is not unreasonable to assume that scientists at all three weapons labs have knowingly or unknowingly been approached to provide classified information to China or its intermediaries. The laboratories are cognizant of that threat. Frankly, I don't know if the steps the laboratories, working with the Department of Energy and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, are taking are sufficient to prevent espionage at our laboratories.

I have met with Director Freeh I, and he assures me that the FBI is doing all it can in this regard. I am certain that, no matter what steps we take, the Chinese and others will continue their efforts.

#### THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, March 23, 1999, the federal debt stood at \$5,645,199,129,224.03 (Five trillion, six hundred forty-five billion, one hundred ninety-nine million, one hundred twenty-nine thousand, two hundred twenty-four dollars and three cents).

One year ago, March 23, 1998, the federal debt stood at \$5,539,833,000,000 (Five trillion, five hundred thirty-nine billion, eight hundred thirty-three million).

Five years ago, March 23, 1994, the federal debt stood at \$4,559,372,000,000 (Four trillion, five hundred fifty-nine billion, three hundred seventy-two million).

Ten years ago, March 23, 1989, the federal debt stood at \$2,737,055,000,000 (Two trillion, seven hundred thirty-seven billion, fifty-five million).

Fifteen years ago, March 23, 1984, the federal debt stood at \$1,465,084,000,000 (One trillion, four hundred sixty-five billion, eighty-four million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,180,115,129,224.03 (Four trillion, one hundred eighty billion, one hundred fifteen million, one hundred twenty-nine thousand, two hundred twenty-four dollars and three cents) during the past 15 years.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 21

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I regret that because of my father's funeral in Mississippi yesterday, I was not present in the Senate to vote on S. Con. Res. 21, authorizing the President of the United States to conduct military air operations and missile strikes against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). Had I

been present, I would have voted "aye" on the resolution.

The authorization is carefully limited and is designed to permit the participation of military forces of the United States, in concert with NATO allies, in an action to respond to a clear threat to the security and stability of Europe and indirectly to our own security interests.

It is my hope that this action will serve to signal the willingness of the United States government to keep its commitments under the NATO treaty and to be a force for peace and freedom in the region sought to be protected by the alliance.

#### FRANCESCO (GHEIB) GHEBRESILLASSIE RETIRES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, Francesco Ghebresillassie plans to retire after 32 years of service to the Senate. That is quite a record, and it deserves notices from those of us who depend so heavily upon—and are never disappointed by—Gheib and the men and women who work with him.

Since 1987, he has been Manager of the Production Services Branch of Central Operations under the Sergeant at Arms. In that role, he has supervised all the activities of the Micrographics and Production Services sections. He came to that post step by step, working his way from machine operator to computer operator to shift supervisor. By 1975, he was responsible for two work shifts and for the operations in two buildings.

Thereafter, as Hardware Manager, he was responsible for keeping the Senate current with technological changes in the computer arena, refining our procedures, and working with vendors. Later on, as User Support Manager and Production Services Manager, he emphasized quality service to the staff who sit at the thousands of computers within our Senate offices. He has been responsible for interaction with them, and has improved the tech support they have needed to deal with the rapid pace of change in the cyber world. Gheib has also supervised the staff who maintain our microfilm documents for posterity.

Needless to say, today's Senate is quite a different institution from the one to which Gheib came in 1967. One of the ways it has changed for the better has been the technological modernization of which Gheib has been a part. Because of his labors, and the diligence of those who have worked with him over the years, we have been able to better serve the folks back home in ways that were not possible three decades ago.

As we congratulate Gheib on his retirement, I want to also acknowledge his wife, Theresa, who works for our colleague from Wisconsin, Senator KOHL. We wish for them and for their daughters, Lisa and Ayesha, all the good things the future can bring.

#### CONNIE SULLIVAN RETIRES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, Connie Sullivan, who has served as Reprographic Manager in the Service Department since 1989, plans to retire in June. This will be a significant loss for the Senate. For the past decade, she has been responsible for all phases of the Reprographics Division—more recently known as Printing, Graphics, and Direct Mail—within the Sergeant at Arms office.

Connie has been with the Senate for 24 years. She came here in February, 1975 from the House of Representatives as a Composer Technician in the newly created "Composing Room," which was part of the Printing Section of our Department. You can imagine the technological changes Connie has seen since then, when she was asked to assume the duties of Composer with oversight for all the typesetting and layout functions of the Composing Room.

In the restructuring of the Service Department in 1984, when the Composing Room became the Pre-Press Section, Connie was promoted to supervisor. In a subsequent reorganization in 1986, she was again promoted to Operations Branch Head. That was a well-deserved recognition of her long experience with the growth and integration of services and, especially, the development of the Pre-Press section from conventional typesetting and layout to desk-top publishing and a full-color graphics operations.

In that regard, Connie has been one of the people who have helped the Senate enter fully into the information age. We are able to keep in closer touch with our constituents, and they with us, and that has a positive impact on just about everything we do here.

So on behalf of the Senate, I want to thank Connie for all her years of service and wish her many happy years of time with her family, her garden, and the enduring satisfaction of a job well done.

#### RUSSELL JACKSON RETIRES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, there are today only four Senators who were here in 1965 when Russell Jackson first came to the Senate to work as an elevator operator. He has observed this institution, both its changes and its continuity, for a long, long time. Now, as he retires as Senior Manager of Central Operations, I want to thank him, on behalf of the entire Senate, for a lifetime of service.

Early on, Russell interrupted his work here for a different kind of service, in the U.S. Army, but he returned to the Senate to work with the Office of the Superintendent. Within that Office, he worked his way up the ladder by doing it all: evening shift, day shift, staff assistant, supervisor, office manager, and senior service officer.

Within the confines of the Senate family, we all know how important is the coordination of office moves, the